



Town of Framingham
SCHOOL COMMITTEE

JONATHAN MAYNARD BUILDING
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Framingham, Massachusetts 01701-7433

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September 23, 2009

Ms. Carol Spack, Chair
Planning Board
Town of Framingham
150 Concord Street, B37
Framingham, MA 01702

Dear Ms. Spack:

I am writing on behalf of the School Committee concerning the East Framingham Sewer Improvement Project (EFSIP) being proposed on A Street. The School Committee understands the need for a facility in this general area for the well being of the community, as well as the need to move efficiently in regards to ARRA funding. We also recognize that the Planning Board has the expertise and authority to consider the design of the building and the construction process. As you contemplate approval of this project on this site, the School Committee hopes you will consider and inquire about the following factors:

Health and Safety: Are there any potential safety concerns in terms of biological contaminants or chemicals released through air or ground by having this type of facility located near a school/athletic field? It was learned at a recent Planning Board meeting that the site in question used to be a Town dump. Has the soil been tested for contaminants? If the soil on this site were disturbed by construction, would the soil contents pose a health risk?

Odors: What are the chances of odor issues from such a facility located near a school/athletic field? What chemicals would be present in the exhaust air from the proposed wastewater management facility?

Security: What type of security needs to be in place to ensure that students do not enter EFSIP facility or site during construction and after the facility is opened?

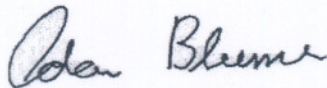
Fuel Storage: What impact will a fueling station have on the site in terms of traffic to the school and neighborhoods? How can we be sure that this will not be disruptive, especially when combined with the typical student, staff, and school bus traffic?

Alternate Use/Alternate Site: To your knowledge, what are the alternate uses for the site given the 200-foot buffer to wetlands? Is there a better site for a new wastewater management facility?

Construction Issues: Can the Planning Board regulate when construction work is done, both in terms of time of day and year, to minimize disruptions to the student learning and athletics in the area? Specifically, we are concerned about the impact of blasting, overall construction-related traffic, and construction waste. Could the recently renovated high school be damaged from blasting and what could be done to mitigate this concern?
Can the Planning Board require that Framingham Police Department provide traffic detail coverage for the A Street construction site during peak hours when the high school is in session or when school events are held?

We plan to send a representative to upcoming Planning Board meeting(s) regarding the proposed A Street facility. In the meantime, if you have any questions about this letter or our questions, please feel free to contact me at 508-877-9783.

Sincerely,



Adam Blumer
Chair, Framingham School Committee

AB/alg
cc: ✓ John Grande, Director, Planning Department